

Dear Js,

11/7/74

The only clips I've taken time for since returning are these valuable ones with Jim's 11/3. It is good to get another's input again!

I've not seen Waldron's reporting. I knew from Paul Valentine that he had a nonsense conspiract-to-be-discovered story the first day that made trouble for Paul, who couldn't get away with the truth, that it was all h.s. However, I don't think this had anything to do with the Post's deficiencies, unless it made it easier for finks to fink.

Your expectation on the reporting is, I think, the actuality. They did what they had to do. The amount of work they did greatly exceeds the amount of reporting they did. So, I think Paul and Martin anticipate further writing and I know Nick Christ has already done it because he did it in my room and on my borrowed typewriter and with documents I supplied. I don't think he made the deadline for a Sunday piece, though.

Paul and Martin did not use notebooks. They used legal pads and filled them. They took more notes than out official notetaker, Livingston. But I dare not ask them for copies. They'd misunderstand.

All these guys, however, have a conflict with their past. None spotted what all should have when it was happening right in front of them. Paul's guilt is reflected in what he dragged in by the invisible heels in the story you sent, that Ray had repeated he was pleading voluntarily. After the documentary evidence he heard and saw???

Ray Brecheers is a Ferri-type reverend and as you guessed, homosexual. He did live with Ferrie and there all his contact with reality ends. (ref. JKW's 11/4 note on KCRS 10/29/74) He has been exploiting this in every way possible. He went back to H.O. and made such a nuisance of himself the G. risen people ran him out of town. Literally. Choice jail. He has been so farout, so irresponsible, that work for another is not impossible. However, I tend toward Occam and suggest he is promoting himself.

Jc's ERM compendium is informative because I had not been able to keep up that far back with what I had to prepare for. Looking at it all together the correlations seems clear enough. Here again I'd suggest it is not isolated. More likely the deciding factor. Any man who is young and wants to be President now has to be nuts. Nobody can possibly rectify all the LBJ and RMN horrors Ford is so sedulously compounding. Moreover, when the tough get going when the going gets rougher, there will be a quest for goats. We are in for the deepest trouble.

My construction problems are minor compared to yours but I have some. A door to repair (without a ~~mutual~~ helpful neighbor) and a wallcap and two sets of stairs to complete pouring if our freefloating farm tenant does not return to finish them. My more immediate worry is whether in November I should mow the too-long grass! And I've got to get to cutting fireweed soon. But except for the cost, these things are good for us at our age.

Tennessee: I think that under the circumstances we did remarkably well and under any circumstances better than merely good. I think that when I thought of it I mailed you cartoons a few times from down there and more from here, not knowing whether they're interest. It was quite a challenge. With a real criminal lawyer, an experienced courtroom type with average courage we'd have made legal history with what emerged from the earlier trip and what we snaffled this trip because the laddies were left uncertain about what I had when they considered what I showed them. And how I discussed it. It is the opposite of Valentine's story that I suspect was edited into error. We had copies of the intercepted legal and judicial Ray correspondence, from the wasecutor. I've already mailed an effort to compensate for a lawyers' oversight on continuing surveillance.

Peer Mae! She has to live her fictions or life has no meaning for her.

Dr. Lundgren: Am I wrong in thinking that the family and Dr. Thach have both been scarce around fallen GL's room? Could he run a country when he couldn't run his own immediate affairs? I'll bet he cancelled his medical insurance once he knew he could lay it onto our tax bills and now blames others. Am I wrong in seeing the possibility of a perverse self-destructiveness in all of this? More than an excuse to avoid testimony. Real paranoia, too?